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SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Emergency assistance to the Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 47/162 of 18 December 1992 on emergency assistance to the Sudan, the General Assembly expressed its full appreciation to the Secretary-General and the organizations of the United Nations system for their efforts to coordinate and mobilize resources and support for the Sudan Emergency Operations and Operation Lifeline Sudan and requested that they continue those efforts. The Assembly also called upon the international community to continue to contribute generously to the emergency needs of the Sudan, especially in the areas of supplementary feeding, non-food items, storage, transportation and emergency recovery.

2. Furthermore, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to assess the emergency situation in the Sudan and to report on it to the Assembly at its forty-eighth session. The present report has been prepared in response to that request.

II. CURRENT SITUATION IN THE SUDAN

3. Since the last report of the Secretary-General on emergency assistance to the Sudan (A/47/554 of 26 October 1992), the situation has continued to deteriorate. In southern Sudan, intensified fighting among factions of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) has resulted in the mass displacement of hundreds of thousands of people from their homes. Assessments by the United Nations and its partners in emergency relief have identified approximately 1.7 million internally displaced people in southern Sudan, in the transitional zones and in urban centres, who are in need of assistance. Malnutrition rates among both adults and children in some areas are unacceptably high and the provision of emergency relief has been hindered by insecurity and heavy rains which have rendered airstrips unsafe. In addition to these factors, cattle raiding and cattle-related diseases have decimated the majority of the once substantial cattle herds, while the continued insecurity has constrained the people's ability to plant crops. It is estimated that up to 700,000 people in the south are at risk of starvation, while another 1.5 million are in urgent need of food.

4. SPLM is now divided into two main groups, namely SPLM (Mainstream) under the command of Mr. John Garang and SPLM (United) under the command of Mr. Riak Machar. In turn, both of these groups have spawned small dissident movements. Escalated fighting between the two factions has led to thousands of deaths in the Upper Nile region, particularly around the towns of Kongor, Ayod, Yuai and Waat. The clashes have also resulted in frequent interruptions of relief operations since February 1993, despite the best efforts of Operation Lifeline Sudan to maintain its presence and flight schedules in the hardest hit areas. At the height of the interfactional conflicts, the United Nations relocated all non-essential staff from the region, retaining staff on stand-by for relief flights to the affected areas.

5. The interfactional fighting and civil strife in the Upper Nile region have led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of residents to eastern and western Equatoria. The majority of those displaced are now located in the camps

of Aswe, Ame and Atepi and in the towns of Torit and Terekeka. Nutritional surveys in those camps indicate extremely high levels of malnutrition among the population, highlighting an increasing need for both food and non-food relief.

6. Failed harvests, insecurity and civil strife caused the displacement of vast numbers of people from Bahr el-Ghazal to the transitional zones of southern Kordofan and southern Darfur. In an attempt to reduce the magnitude of the migration, the United Nations undertook to provide relief by train and airdrops. For the most part, however, much of Bahr el-Ghazal remains inaccessible because of the mining of roads, lack of infrastructure and insecurity in some rural areas.

7. The condition of the displaced persons arriving from northern Bahr el-Ghazal and the Upper Nile to areas in south Kordofan, specifically in the towns of Abyei and Meiram, continued to be of great concern to the United Nations. Efforts to increase the flow of humanitarian aid to those areas through international non-governmental organizations have been particularly problematic, with the Government of the Sudan granting only national non-governmental organizations permanent access to the displaced in the region.

8. The United Nations and its partners in relief continue to be concerned with the plight of the internally displaced population and squatter citizens in and around Khartoum. Demolitions of unauthorized displaced and squatter settlements continued in the capital city through 1992 and early 1993. This has resulted in several thousand additional families losing their homes, shelter and jobs, with only a small proportion of the affected population receiving humanitarian aid or being granted the right to land ownership. It is now estimated that, of the more than 830,000 displaced people who were officially counted in Khartoum in 1990, which probably accounts for only half of the actual displaced population in the city, only 150,000 are at present receiving some form of assistance in one of the two official government displaced persons' camps located outside Khartoum. Although services in these two camps have improved, thousands of displaced persons continue to live in inadequate and precarious conditions in and around the capital city. Similarly, it is estimated that of the more than 600,000 squatter citizens who had their homes demolished by the end of 1992, approximately one third have been allocated land in one of the resettlement areas on the periphery of the city.

9. The displacement of over 100,000 Nuba people from the Nuba mountains area and the relocation of part of this population to "peace villages" in southern Kordofan continues to be of great concern to the United Nations and the international community. Government restrictions on movements by the United Nations and its partners in relief to a number of locations have hindered attempts to assess the relief needs in a comprehensive manner.

10. The second Abuja peace conference on the Sudan, hosted by Nigeria, was held from 26 April to 17 May 1993. The conference was attended by delegations representing the Government of the Sudan and SPLM (Mainstream). While negotiations resulted in a number of positive developments, there is continued disagreement on several of the more contentious issues. These include the SPLM proposal that the Sudan be governed as a secular State or under a confederate

system and the relationship between the State and religion. The next round of talks, which had been scheduled for June, was postponed and no new dates have been set.

11. A cease-fire was observed between SPLM (Mainstream) and the Government of the Sudan during the second round of peace talks in Abuja. SPLM (United) was not a party to the cease-fire agreement, and fighting between the two factions of SPLM was particularly fierce at that time. The interfactional fighting severely hampered United Nations and non-governmental organization relief activities in the south.

12. From 15 to 25 May, talks were held between the Government of the Sudan and SPLM (United) in Nairobi. Agreements were reached on a number of issues, including the division of authority between the south and the central Government and the division of wealth and other economic issues. The talks were suspended pending internal discussions on the outstanding points.

13. In a separate development, the Ambassador of the United States of America to the Sudan negotiated a cease-fire agreement between the two warring factions of SPLM in the badly affected areas of Ayod, Kongor, Yuai and Waat. The agreement, signed in Nairobi on 28 May 1993, stipulated that there would be a complete withdrawal of all SPLM military personnel from an area encompassed by a 45-mile radius from the aircraft landing fields of each of the four towns. The withdrawal was to have been completed by 5 June 1993, however, neither side withdrew by the agreed-upon date. A second agreement was negotiated by the United States Ambassador on 19 June, but neither side has honoured the agreement.

14. In August 1992, Sudanese Government forces launched an offensive on the area around Kaya, near the border with Uganda, forcing up to 90,000 persons to seek refuge in Uganda and displacing tens of thousands more within southern Sudan. During the same month, fighting between factions of SPLM was reported to have driven 40,000 people across the border into Ethiopia.

15. The economic reform programme of the Government of the Sudan, while welcomed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), has not resulted in the economic growth forecast by the Government in early 1992. Continued high inflation and a devalued pound have resulted in a surge in the prices of basic commodities such as bread, accompanied by shortages of other necessities, including fuel. Pay increases have done little to keep pace with the annual rate of inflation, estimated at 130 per cent in 1992. The World Bank has suspended all operations in the Sudan pending the repayment of outstanding loans.

III. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND OPERATION LIFELINE SUDAN

A. General

16. Emergency requirements for the Sudan for 1993, as reflected in the United Nations consolidated appeal of January 1993 and subsequent amendments, amount to $130 million in the food aid sector and $74 million in the non-food sector. As of July 1993, contributions for food aid totalled $65 million. Contributions

for non-food activities amounted to $17 million, as shown below on a project-by-project basis.

17. In the non-food aid categories, almost all sectors require immediate intervention, especially in the light of the widespread displacement of people throughout the south, which has led to alarming rates of malnutrition and a heightened presence of preventable diseases. The serious problems of inadequate medical services and insufficient supplies of drugs in the most vulnerable areas have been compounded by constant insecurity. Other sectors, including water supply, education and seeds and tools, have also been disrupted.

18. The relief policy of the Government of the Sudan for 1993 contains the following major points: the Government welcomes the assistance provided by the international community and is committed to the delivery of food to affected populations anywhere in the country; any financial or material contributions shall be directed to the Government of the Sudan or United Nations agencies; allocations will be made by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), in cooperation with the participating agencies; non-governmental organizations will be represented in technical coordination committees at all levels and are requested to inform RRC of any financial or material contributions so that the balance of allocations is maintained; international non-governmental organizations are requested to assist national non-governmental organizations through training and building of organizational capacity; donors are requested to concentrate humanitarian aid in the areas of development (for example, through food-for-work projects), basic needs, transport and logistics; the Government confirms that no customs duties will be levied on relief food.

19. During the visit to the Sudan in September 1992 by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, agreement was reached with the Government on a number of points, including the principle of access to all in need, measures to facilitate the work of non-governmental organizations, and a list of specific destinations for relief flights (see A/47/554, para. 14). In a follow-up mission in November and December 1992, the Special Emissary of the Under-Secretary-General conducted "proximity talks" in Nairobi with the Government of the Sudan and three factions of SPLM. The negotiations resulted in concrete agreements on the following points, among others: the use of a river corridor from Kosti to Juba, with a branch from Malakal to Nasir, for the transport of food aid; reactivation of the rail link from Muglad to Aweil and Wau, as a corridor of tranquillity; the use of a road corridor from Lokichokio, Kenya, to various locations in southern Sudan; revised assessments of the location and state of displaced populations in affected areas.

20. In the months following the Nairobi agreement, the United Nations and its partners in relief undertook extensive assessments of the most affected areas and began the delivery of both food and non-food aid items using river, air, rail and road corridors. Over 40 locations in southern Sudan and the transitional zones were assessed. The United Nations has established a permanent presence in secure areas, and international non-governmental organizations working in the southern region, both under the umbrella of Operation Lifeline Sudan and independently, have ongoing relief programmes.

21. In late January 1993, the United Nations sponsored a four-day meeting between the Government of the Sudan and international non-governmental

organizations which concluded with agreements on a wide range of issues, including cooperation to build up national capacity; hiring procedures for national and international staff; access; administrative procedures to facilitate relief work; and the need to shift from relief to rehabilitation. It was also agreed that a Commission of Voluntary Agencies would be established as the government focal point for the concerns and activities of international non-governmental organizations. Despite its formal establishment in January, the Commission did not become operational until July 1993.

22. In June 1993, the United Nations Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs for the Sudan visited Nigeria, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda and the Sudan. The Special Envoy discussed the humanitarian situation in the Sudan with high-level officials of the latter four countries and received expressions of strong support and encouragement for the emergency relief efforts of the United Nations.

23. From 5 to 11 August 1993, the Special Envoy met with relevant officials of the Sudanese Government in Khartoum to review and discuss means of strengthening the implementation of the agreements reached in September and December 1992 and in January 1993. Similar discussions were also conducted regarding the southern sector with the major SPLM/A faction leaders. In addition to reaffirming the principles and commitments contained in those agreements, the two sides agreed, inter alia, on the following provisions: the United Nations will submit its flight schedules by the twentieth day of each month for clearance by the last day of the month; requests for clearance for road, river and rail deliveries will be responded to within 10 days, as will requests for visas and travel permits for United Nations personnel; access will be granted to United Nations monitoring personnel to all locations where United Nations relief operations are carried out; the United Nations will be allowed to import and deploy radio communications equipment to its field teams without delay; the United Nations will improve the timeliness and regularity of its reporting on the southern sector operations of Operation Lifeline Sudan.

24. With respect to the January 1993 agreement between the Government of the Sudan and international non-governmental organizations, it was agreed that requests by non-governmental organizations for visas, stay and travel permits and for access to review local emergency and rehabilitation requirements, must be responded to within 10 days; that non-governmental organization project proposals will receive a response within 30 days; that a tripartite committee (Government of the Sudan/United Nations/non-governmental organizations) to follow up on the January agreement will be established and will begin functioning immediately, and that the Government will lead joint assessment missions to areas of need with the United Nations and national and international non-governmental organizations.

25. Compliance with the commitments made during the mission of the United Nations Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs for the Sudan will be closely monitored and jointly reviewed by the Government and the United Nations by the end of the year.

B. Relief food assistance

26. In spite of the relatively favourable harvest of 1992, large sections of the population in the Sudan continued to suffer from chronic food shortages in the second half of 1992 and the first quarter of 1993. Northern Sudan was faced with varying degrees of crop failure in the rain-fed sectors across Darfur, Kordofan and the Red Sea hills. In the south, civil conflict has brought most agricultural activities to a complete stop and forced the displacement of large segments of the population, creating the threat of starvation on a massive scale.

27. The assessment mission carried out by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) in November 1992 estimated that Sudan's 1992 harvest would produce a surplus of one million tons of sorghum. At the same time, it established that about 324,000 tons of food aid would be required to cover the needs of an estimated 2.8 million people affected by drought and internal displacement. The Government of the Sudan, by a memorandum of understanding signed with WFP on 31 March 1993, undertook to provide 153,000 tons of sorghum which, together with carry-over stocks of 106,000 tons from 1992, would cover the cereal portion of the above requirement.

28. The first barge convoy carrying 1,900 tons of relief aid for the Sobat basin completed its mission in the second week of January. A second barge convoy with relief food for areas in need along the Nile corridor to Juba, the first since 1983, delivered 2,400 tons of food aid to 24 drop-off points, benefiting an estimated 500,000 people. An additional convoy, carrying 2,860 tons for the Juba corridor, began its trip at the end of June. A plan was being worked out to deliver 15,730 tons of food aid by barge in the third quarter of the year.

29. During the first half of 1993, WFP delivered 14,568 tons by air into southern Sudan from Khartoum, Lokichokio, Kenya, and Entebbe, Uganda. WFP operates two Buffalo planes and two C-130 Hercules from Lokichokio and one plane from Khartoum. An airdrop operation from Khartoum was also being prepared using an Ilyushin 76 plane.

30. Deliveries by road into southern Sudan amounted to 2,417 tons from Kampala, Uganda, and 97 tons from Lokichokio.

31. In May, WFP successfully delivered 1,000 tons to Bahr el-Ghazal by train. The Babanusa-Wau relief train was the first train to use this route since 1989. Despite being attacked and looted on several occasions, drop-offs were made at 16 needy locations.

32. In April and June 1993, WFP signed letters of understanding with a number of local and international non-governmental organizations for the delivery and distribution of food commodities throughout the Sudan.

C. Non-food assistance

33. Emergency activities in the Sudan continued to target women and children, the most vulnerable groups. The Nairobi agreement of December 1992 (see para. 19 above) paved the way for unprecedented access to the hardest hit locations, mainly in the south. Assistance was provided in the southern States of Upper Nile, Equatoria and Bahr el-Ghazal, along with the transitional zones of southern Kordofan and southern Darfur; to the displaced in Khartoum; and to drought-affected areas in Kordofan, Darfur and Central State.

34. UNICEF joined other United Nations organizations and counterparts in the Government and SPLM in needs assessments of identified problem areas. The total number of vulnerable persons in need of non-food assistance was estimated at 7.6 million, of whom one third or more are children. An estimated 3.5 million people accessible in southern Sudan are at risk because of the conflict and its disruption of traditional trading patterns and coping mechanisms. Among these, 1.5 million were targeted for emergency relief assistance in 1993.

35. Assessment missions confirmed the high prevalence of malnutrition and diseases such as malaria, diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections, tuberculosis, measles, Kala-Azar and schistosomiasis, which contribute to a high incidence of infant, child and maternal deaths. In drought- and conflict-affected areas, 20 to 40 per cent of children under five years of age are malnourished. A report by the Centers for Disease Control, in Atlanta, on the situation in the Ame camp and in Ayod and Kongor indicated child malnourishment rates of more than 80 per cent. In addition, there is a 40 per cent malnourishment rate in the larger displaced persons' camps of southern Kordofan. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates that 400,000 children require special feeding. Shortages of essential drugs and poor primary health-care services continue to be common problems.

36. The general inadequacy of water and sanitation facilities and lack of health education are causing additional health and nutrition problems. More than one million people continue to be in urgent need of adequate safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

37. Displacements caused by SPLM interfactional fighting and by continued conflict in the Nuba mountains left large numbers of people in need of relief and shelter in the Upper Nile capital of Malakal and its surroundings (estimated at 15,000 at mid-1993), as well as in camps in Kordofan (90,000 people) and southern Darfur (125,000 people). Continued interfactional fighting in southern Sudan, especially the triangle bordered by the villages of Kongor, Ayod and Waat, has caused mass population displacement, with some people moving to displaced persons' camps in the south and others moving east to villages bordering Ethiopia.

Relief, shelter and food security

38. In response to the widespread displacement of people from their areas of origin, relief and shelter activities were accelerated in 1993. In the first six months of the year, more than 1,600 square metres of plastic sheeting, 10,000 blankets, along with jerrycans, soap, cooking utensils and mud-stoves, were provided for vulnerable populations. In a joint effort by FAO, UNICEF and

the donor community, seeds and tools were delivered to a variety of locations to permit farmers to grow their own food.

39. In an effort to enhance the ability of the Plant Protection Department to fight an infestation of desert locusts, FAO is coordinating a locust-control campaign.

Nutrition

40. To support supplementary feeding operations, UNICEF continued to operate a UNIMIX production facility in Khartoum, which produced an average of 75 tons daily. By mid-1993, some 2,000 tons of UNIMIX had been produced and distributed. In Juba alone, 5,400 children benefited from wet feeding, while 15,000 pregnant and nursing mothers received dry rations of UNIMIX. From Lokichokio, UNICEF had also delivered some 190 tons of UNIMIX and 58 tons of high energy foods by end-June for supplementary and therapeutic programmes in Akon, Theit and the Ame, Aswa and Atepi displaced persons' camps. More than 2.5 million capsules of vitamin A were distributed from Khartoum to prevent night blindness among children, with another 2.5 million capsules pre-positioned for later distribution. Quarterly nutrition surveys were supported in Juba, Central State, the Red Sea province, Khartoum and Kordofan.

Water and sanitation

41. By mid-1993, some 300 handpumps had been installed in Kordofan, Darfur and Central State, in addition to 500 latrines. Although drilling operations in southern Sudan continued to be hampered by problems of access, 65 handpumps were added in Juba and Wau, while 290 were maintained as the only source of safe water. Some 20 new boreholes were drilled in Mundri, with another 20 planned for the Aswa, Ame and Atepi camps. Some 40 handpumps have been installed or maintained in other SPLM-held areas.

42. To address the sanitation situation in Malakal, 10 community latrines were constructed and health committees were formed and trained to improve the local environment. More than 250 people were trained as community health educators in Juba. In Ed Dein, southern Darfur, five submersible pumps were installed, in cooperation with Save the Children Fund (United Kingdom) and Oxfam, to serve 25,000 displaced persons. At Abyei, three pumps were installed and support given to water yard maintenance, operation and water distribution. Six handpumps were provided to the relocated Sidra camp for the displaced in Kordofan. To address the emergency needs in Sennar, Blue Nile province, UNICEF-supported water drilling operations began in early 1993, with some 80 handpumps and 30 latrines constructed and 250 handpump mechanics trained.

Health

43. UNICEF supported child immunization activities to combat the six child-killer diseases. Vaccines and syringes, cold chain equipment, vehicles, vehicle spare parts and fuel were provided for this purpose. In Juba, high levels of immunization coverage have been sustained for children under five years of age. Measles vaccination has been identified as a priority health intervention because of the close correlation between measles and malnutrition.

44. By mid-1993, more than 50,000 children had been immunized against measles in SPLM areas, with a target of 170,000 by the end of the year. In addition, about 85 tons of medical supplies and equipment were channelled to non-governmental organization partners implementing health programmes in the southern sector. The training of some 200 health staff was funded to strengthen service delivery. To address the acute shortage of essential drugs, some 2,000 assorted health kits were distributed, enough to cover a population of one million for six months. Two million sachets of oral rehydration salts were supplied. To combat outbreaks of meningitis, one million doses of vaccines and 500,000 syringes, together with cash support, were provided to augment national stocks. By mid-1993, this effort, together with the arrival of rains, was reflected in a drop in meningitis cases reported. In June 1993, two UNICEF medical teams were assigned to work on the WFP barges to provide curative health services at population centres on the Nile between Malakal and Juba.

45. An accelerated malaria programme is being carried out in areas with high densities of mosquitoes in Kordofan, Darfur and Central State and the displaced areas of Khartoum State, with technical and material assistance funded by the World Health Organization (WHO) regular budget resources ($854,000) for 1992/93. A donation by the Government of Canada is being utilized for insecticide purchases. The WHO regional office has also approved the release of US$ 620,000 for the purchase of emergency supplies of insecticide for any epidemics that may occur. An additional sum of US$ 180,000 has been provided for the purchase of anti-malaria drugs for Eastern Province and for the displaced population around Khartoum.

46. There is an alarming increase in the prevalence of tuberculosis in the above-mentioned target population. WHO used a contribution of US$ 120,000 from the Government of Sweden to prepare an emergency plan of action for the purchase and distribution of supplies and laboratory equipment and to begin a tuberculosis register and conduct training.

47. Meningococcal cerebrospinal meningitis (CSM) is an endemic disease in the Sudan. The fatality rate is high but can be reduced dramatically by proper management (from 80-85 per cent to 6-10 per cent). In 1993, WHO provided 800,000 doses of vaccines for use in emergency situations. WHO has also helped to purchase 1.2 million doses for regular use. However, additional drugs and vaccine are required for the treatment of identified cases and the prevention of large-scale epidemics.

48. Since the diagnosis of the first AIDS case in Khartoum in 1986, the Ministry of Health has focused considerable attention on the threat of HIV infection in the Sudan. The Sudan has porous borders with a number of high HIV/AIDS-endemic countries and is now developing an epidemiological pattern in the southern States which is similar to that of the bordering countries. In 1993, WHO provided more than US$ 480,000 for blood-screening test kits and accessories, information, education and communication (IEC) material production, training of trainers, epidemiological surveys, fellowships and international staff. WHO has also succeeded in mobilizing funds from resident United Nations agencies for health education and condom supply for high-risk population groups (youth, displaced persons, prostitutes, truck drivers, refugees and pregnant women), as well as the general public. The bodies assisting in this work are

UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

49. Under a project funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by WHO, with some inputs provided by UNICEF, an Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit has been established in the Ministry of Health. In addition to training health personnel for management of emergency situations, the project provided the necessary tools to obtain information on disasters. The Unit is now operational in northern Sudan, with a network of communication and information transmission as well as trained staff in every State. WHO intends to expand the emergency preparedness and response activities to the south once required donor funding is obtained.

50. In response to rumours of an extensive epidemic of Kala-Azar (leishmaniasis) in the southern States, WHO conducted extensive epidemiological surveys in both government and rebel-held areas.

Emergency education

51. Surveys conducted in 1992 revealed that two thirds of school-age children in the target population have no access to education. Female enrolment rates were very low, ranging from one tenth to one half of those for boys. Schools are functioning in spite of the lack of trained and paid teachers, the conflict, migration, displacement and poverty. In southern Sudan, it is estimated that some 150,000 pupils are attending school. The major priorities for education are the provision of school facilities and educational materials and special care for traumatized and malnourished children.

52. The first phase of a teacher-training course for the States of Upper Nile, Equatoria and Bahr el-Ghazal was completed. The training target is 800 teachers. Emergency education committees were established in Upper Nile, Kordofan, Darfur, Khartoum, Central, Eastern, Equatoria and Bahr el-Ghazal States to coordinate education interventions, including the reconstruction of classrooms and the supply of essential educational materials. By mid-1993, $1 million worth of educational supplies were in the pipeline and of the estimated 1,000 schools in the southern sector, 240 had received education kits. By the end of 1993, 500 schools serving up to 100,000 children are targeted for assistance, along with training for 270 teachers and 75 teacher educators. Assessments are under way in the south to identify and treat children suffering from psycho-social trauma. UNICEF has also distributed 600 school-garden kits and is making plans to distribute fishing equipment to schools in southern Sudan.

Khartoum displaced

53. The United Nations continued to provide key non-food inputs through government channels and national and international non-governmental organizations. Water and sanitation activities included maintenance of the 540 handpumps previously installed with UNICEF support and provision of water storage and transportation facilities. Médécins sans Frontières was given assistance for its project to build 700 latrines in the Jebel Aulia displaced persons' camp, while essential medicines were supplied to national and international non-governmental organizations serving the displaced.

Supplementary feeding centres were supplied with UNIMIX, and women's groups were established to cultivate home gardens.

Unaccompanied minors

54. As a result of the conflict in the south, thousands of Sudanese children, mainly boys, have been separated from their families. More than 10,000 unaccompanied children are living in a refugee camp at Kakuma, Kenya, under the protection of UNHCR. Within southern Sudan, there are more than 4,000 unaccompanied children at a school in Palataka, and another 1,300 in Nasir. Four hundred and fifty of the Nasir children were reunited with their families in December 1992, while another 172 have been identified for reunification. The remaining children in Nasir receive relief assistance from UNICEF, WFP and Radda Barnen.

Cattle vaccination

55. Cattle are a mainstay for many people in southern Sudan. Conflicts, drought, floods and disease have reduced the number of cattle to an estimated 4 million in SPLM-held areas, with devastating effects on nutrition, local economies and lifestyle. UNICEF aims to improve livestock health through vaccination against diseases, especially rinderpest. Almost 500,000 cattle have been vaccinated against rinderpest, with a target of more than 1.2 million by the end of the year.

D. Assistance to refugees

56. The anticipated repatriation of large numbers of refugees from the Sudan in the latter part of 1992, particularly Eritreans, did not materialize. However, further progress in the preparations was made in 1993 and a pledging conference on Eritrean voluntary repatriation operations took place at Geneva in July 1993. Through the conference, the Government of Eritrea and the United Nations system are seeking funds for the proposed repatriation of up to 500,000 Eritrean refugees.

57. The repatriation of 565 Sudanese refugees was conducted by chartered aircraft from Mboki in the Central African Republic to Khartoum. The majority of the returnees were provided some assistance for their reintegration and have since been transferred from Khartoum to their final destinations in southern and western Sudan.

58. On 2 February 1993, UNHCR and the Governments of Ethiopia and the Sudan signed a tripartite agreement for the repatriation of Ethiopian refugees. From 9 to 23 June 1993, 13,133 Ethiopian refugees were repatriated from Safawa and Um Rakuba camps to Humera and Metema in Ethiopia. At mid-year, arrangements were being made to register and airlift approximately 800 refugees from Suki and Damazine to Gambella and other destinations in Ethiopia.

59. The voluntary repatriation of Chadian refugees, which had begun in May 1992, resumed in December 1992. Some 11,000 Chadians from the refugee camps in western Sudan were repatriated to Ouddai and Biltine Provinces in eastern Chad. Two of the three camps - Mornei and Habilal - have been closed and the

remaining camp - Asernei - has a remaining refugee population of approximately 4,500. UNHCR closed its office in Geneina in September 1992 and will continue to monitor the refugee problems of the region from Khartoum.

60. The Government of the Sudan decided to grant refugee status to approximately 450 Somalis at the end of April 1993. UNHCR is directly assisting some 350 temporarily residing in Khartoum, pending the identification of a more permanent solution. The Government is exploring the possibility of transferring the refugees to areas outside Khartoum where there are better prospects for self-reliance and settlement.

IV. ACTION TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

61. In addition to the activities described above, several Member States and organizations of the United Nations system have provided information on action taken in compliance with General Assembly resolution 47/162.

A. Member States

Australia

62. Some 4.5 million Australian dollars have been approved for emergency and refugee relief in the Sudan for the 1992/93 financial year. To date, $A 3.39 million has been expended, with $A 1.13 million to be spent later.

Cyprus

63. The Government of Cyprus intends to make a voluntary contribution of $1,250 for emergency assistance to the Sudan.

Denmark

64. In 1992, Danish emergency assistance to the Sudan amounted to DKr 45,427,024, channelled through international as well as Danish non-governmental organizations. In 1993, Danish emergency assistance amounts to DKr 11,250,000, channelled through Danish non-governmental organizations.

Germany

65. In 1992, Germany contributed a total of DM 1,189,502 for humanitarian assistance to the Sudan, of which DM 1,185,000 was spent for projects mainly in the medical field and DM 4,502 for the transportation of wheelchairs and crutches. In the current budget year, 1993, no financial commitment has yet been made for humanitarian assistance projects in the Sudan.

66. In addition, emergency assistance was recently given to the Sudan in the area of food aid, technical cooperation projects via churches and other bilateral cooperation projects.

Italy

67. The Government of Italy has recently taken the decision to fund a programme of assistance to the Sudanese population and to refugees in the Sudan. The total amount allocated to this programme is 11.93 billion Italian lire.

Netherlands

68. The total assistance provided by the Government of the Netherlands to the Sudan in 1993 amounts, so far, to 32,575,902 Netherlands guilders.

Norway

69. So far this year, Norway has contributed approximately US$ 4 million in official humanitarian assistance to the Sudan, directed through UNICEF, WFP, Save the Children and Norwegian non-governmental organizations.

Sweden

70. Since 18 December 1992, when General Assembly resolution 47/162 was adopted, Sweden has contributed 19 million Swedish krona (SKr) for disaster relief to southern Sudan. Of that amount, WFP and UNICEF received SKr 7.5 million each and the Swedish non-governmental organization Pingstmissionens u-landshjälp, Skr 4 million, for continued disaster relief in the area.

B. Organizations of the United Nations system

United Nations Children's Fund

71. UNICEF emergency activities in the Sudan continued to target women and children, the most vulnerable groups in affected areas. More than 7 million people, both in northern and in southern Sudan, affected by drought, conflict and displacement, were estimated to be in need of non-food assistance. Of this total population, one third or more are children.

72. In view of the acute needs of the target populations caused by continued fighting and displacement, and to further expedite the movement of relief assistance, UNICEF designed a 100-day plan of action covering the period from April to July 1993. The plan allowed UNICEF to accelerate its actions to address immediate needs and to pre-position supplies in anticipation of reduced access owing to the rainy season.

73. The functional interventions covered relief, shelter, water supply, sanitation, health, nutrition, household food security, livestock vaccination, education, aircraft operation and logistics.

74. UNICEF programme implementation is coordinated from Khartoum and Nairobi, with field offices and staff in El Obeid, Port Sudan, Al Fasher, Juba, Wau, Malakal, Sennar, Akon, Nasir, Nimule, Yambio and Waat. Lokichokio in northern Kenya acts as a key operational base for serving locations in southern Sudan.

75. In the implementation of non-food relief operations, UNICEF cooperates with the Government of the Sudan, the Sudan and Rehabilitation Association, the Relief Association of Southern Sudan and numerous national and international non-governmental organizations. A series of basic agreements has been concluded with non-governmental organizations on various project activities.

76. UNICEF works closely with United Nations programmes and organizations to deliver non-food aid in the Sudan, in particular with UNDP, WFP, WHO and FAO. Examples of cooperation include aircraft operations, joint assessments of the non-food sector and the provision of seeds and tools to needy populations.

77. In the southern sector, UNICEF is the lead agency for Operation Lifeline Sudan, established in April 1989 to coordinate United Nations and non-governmental organization relief activities for all civilians in need. In this role, UNICEF cooperates closely with WFP and some 25 non-governmental organizations that operate under the Operation Lifeline Sudan umbrella.

78. The main operational constraints were related to military activities and interfactional fighting in southern Sudan, and the insecurity reflected in the killing of three relief workers and a journalist in that area and the disappearance of a staff member from Juba. Government constraints on international non-governmental organization operations from Khartoum reduced the number and effectiveness of available conduits for relief operations. Other problems related to funding, which by the middle of 1993 covered less than one third of the amount requested.

United Nations Environment Programme

79. Activities of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the Sudan were sustained and consolidated within the framework of the Programme of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, in the fields of environmental legislation and machinery, as well as environmental education and training.

United Nations Population Fund

80. UNFPA continued its support to the Sudan through the approval and implementation of an interim country programme for 1992-1993 in the amount of $5.5 million. This is a comprehensive programme of long-term development activities in the following sectors: data collection and analysis, population

policy formulation and implementation, mother and child health and family planning, information, education and communication, and promotion of women's status.

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

81. At the request of UNDP, Khartoum, the Centre dispatched a staff member to the Sudan in March 1992 and an international consultant in April/May 1992. The consultant, whose mission was funded by the Centre, prepared a draft project document entitled "Services for the urban poor". The duration of the project is two years, and its budget amounts to approximately US$ 9.5 million. The project's objectives include improving settlement planning and upgrading policies and procedures for the provision of improved basic urban services to the urban poor, and developing income-generating and income-support activities. Among the first beneficiaries will be the recently relocated households from unauthorized settlements in Khartoum, followed by those still living in unauthorized or unplanned residential areas. The project document was submitted to UNDP, Khartoum, in July 1992 and is still under review.

World Food Programme

82. A joint WFP/FAO country-wide assessment mission to the Sudan in November/December 1991 identified the 1992 emergency food aid requirements as nearly three quarters of a million tons. As mandated by the international community for the second consecutive year, all food aid arriving at Port Sudan was consigned to WFP, with WFP responsible for the berthing of incoming ships, discharging cargo, bagging bulk grain, clearing food aid from the port, and arranging for transport from the port to primary delivery points throughout the country. From these "primary hubs", non-governmental organizations took over and moved the food to areas designated for distribution by the State Relief Committee, of which WFP and the non-governmental organizations are members.

83. The quantity of food delivered to Port Sudan for emergency operations in 1992 was 320,000 tons, with an additional 20,000 tons of food aid for southern Sudan transported through Kenya and Uganda, representing less than half of the requirements. This low percentage was a result of the many operational constraints continuing to plague relief activities into southern Sudan. Outbreaks of war and interfactional fighting in the south continually disrupted relief operations during the year and, as a result, deliveries had to be on an ad hoc basis, whether by air, barge or road, because of the extremely hazardous security conditions. The suspension of WFP/Operation Lifeline Sudan activities in eastern Equatoria following the killing of three relief workers and a journalist in September was a major set-back to the entire relief operation. Further, inaccessibility to many areas as a result of restrictions imposed by the Government of the Sudan and SPLM factions and the lack of flight clearances continued to hamper efforts to reach people in need. Delays in commitments from donors, with the first relief ship arriving only in May 1992, compounded the problem, causing serious depletion of in-country stocks.

84. Following poor donor response to the 1993 appeal launched by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in January (only 10 per cent of total requirements by the end of March), which was affecting the ability of WFP to carry out emergency operations adequately, WFP issued a special updated appeal in April requesting a revised amount of $130 million to cover both cash and food requirements for the provision of emergency food aid to both northern and southern Sudan during 1993. Since then, the status of resources has improved, with over $30 million in cash donations and 29,000 metric tons of mixed commodities now announced as confirmed pledges, allowing the airlift, barge and road operations to continue. However, further cash and non-cereal pledges (pulses and vegetable oil) are much needed to enable WFP to increase its deliveries and reach the target beneficiaries. Despite the slow start to operations at the beginning of the year owing to the funding constraint, WFP has so far in 1993 arranged the first barge convoy to Juba and expanded the barge operation in general, greatly increased air deliveries with both airlift and airdrop operations and reactivated the utilization of the train corridor to the south.

85. Despite the agreements reached, difficulties in opening up major relief corridors into southern Sudan, renewed insecurity in the so-called "hunger triangle" area in the Upper Nile (Kongor, Waat and Ayod) and delays in receiving clearances for transport operations continue to affect the relief effort. The inability to secure a permanent presence by either the United Nations or other relief agencies in certain destinations has also disrupted the proper monitoring, assessment and distribution of food supplies. Food monitors still have to be shuttled in on a daily basis and the flight schedules are dependent on the daily security situation as well as on climatic conditions.

86. Whereas in 1992 a lack of international non-governmental organizations in sensitive areas obliged WFP to expand its role and act also as the implementing agency, many more international non-governmental organizations are now operating in southern Sudan despite continued difficulties in obtaining permits. Thus, non-governmental organizations are primarily responsible for the secondary transport to distribution sites and for actual distribution to the beneficiaries.

Economic Commission for Africa

87. The Commission is collaborating with other United Nations organizations and with the Government of Ethiopia in the programme for the repatriation and rehabilitation of refugees from the Sudan to Ethiopia.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

88. During the period under review, UNHCR provided assistance to some 300,000 Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees living in 20 rural settlements and six reception centres. In addition, some 17,000 Chadians living in three rural settlements in Darfur were provided with food. It is estimated that another 600,000 Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees were spontaneously settled along the eastern border and in major urban areas. UNHCR assistance to the Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees in the organized settlements and reception centres consisted of regular care and

maintenance in the areas of health, education, logistics, physical infrastructure, water and sanitation, and agriculture, as well as administrative support. Food was provided by WFP. Because of the favourable rains during 1992, the harvest in eastern Sudan, including that of refugee settlements, was good. As a result, WFP food rations in the settlements will be adjusted. The reception centres, where the ability to grow food is limited, continue to be on full rations.

89. The repatriation of Chadians was completed in two stages by February 1993. Some 3,000 were repatriated during the first quarter of 1992, while another 11,000 were repatriated under UNHCR auspices during the period December 1992 to February 1993. UNHCR is now phasing out its programme in western Sudan, as the remaining 5,000 to 6,000 Chadians who have decided to remain are considered to have integrated in the local population and any assistance to this group should be provided within the context of area assistance programmes.

90. UNHCR has continued discussions with the Governments of Eritrea and Ethiopia on the modalities for organized, large-scale repatriation to these countries. The first movement involving a group of 16,000 Ethiopians commenced in early June 1993. This group returned mainly to the Humera area in the Tigray province to be able to participate in the agricultural season. The remaining 34,000 are expected to return after the rainy season during the last quarter of 1993.

91. Although some 70,000 Eritreans have reportedly returned spontaneously from the Sudan to Eritrea, large-scale repatriation has not yet begun. With the successful referendum and the subsequent independence of Eritrea in May 1993, it is expected that concrete steps will be taken in the near future to facilitate the repatriation of some 500,000 Eritreans to their home country. The Eritrean authorities have submitted a reintegration/rehabilitation programme which provides for the establishment of socio-economic infrastructure to allow the return and integration of 500,000 returnees over a period of three years. After an assessment of this government proposal by an inter-agency mission to Eritrea, led by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, with the participation of relevant United Nations agencies (including UNHCR), non-governmental organizations and donors, an appeal for some $255 million was launched.

92. UNHCR, according to its mandate, has agreed to assume responsibility for the repatriation components, such as registration, transportation, reception, distribution of relief items, and other initial integration needs in the form of Quick Impact Projects (QIPS). It is expected that repatriation can commence in early 1994.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

93. FAO has assumed a leading role in coordinating and mobilizing resources for the supply of seeds and agricultural inputs in the Sudan. With resources received from trust fund donors of more than US$ 1.2 million, FAO purchased staple grains locally for use as seeds and has been responsible for their distribution to farmers.

94. With trust fund donations from the United States of America, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Netherlands, the European Economic Community and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), as well as resources from its Technical Cooperation Programme, FAO is implementing seven emergency assistance projects in the Sudan for desert locust control. These projects are providing international experts, pesticides, vehicles and other necessary equipment for aerial and ground control operations.

95. From a trust fund donation of US$ 300,000 from Italy, FAO has purchased water pumping units for the Juba area of southern Sudan with a view to providing clean water for human consumption through the supply and installation of 12-bore-well pumping equipment.

96. FAO, with funding from UNDP as well as from its own Technical Cooperation Programme, has been operating a Food Information and Early Warning System covering the entire country. For lack of donor funding, however, the first phase of the project had to come to a rather abrupt end after two-and-a-half years of successful operations. Subject to funding being made available, the next phase would expand the capabilities of the information system and continue the provision of food security information to government authorities.

97. In April 1993, a FAO crop and food supply assessment mission was dispatched to the Sudan to undertake one of a continuing series of in-depth analyses. It evaluated the wheat and coarse grain crops estimate and advised the international donor community on food aid requirements. These assessments, together with regular reports from the Global Information and Early Warning System, form an important basis for the preparation of United Nations inter-agency appeals under the auspices of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

98. Owing to the severe problems of drought in the Sudan, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is in the process of establishing a UNESCO Chair on water resources at the Oum Durman Islamic University in Khartoum.

World Health Organization

99. In response to the appeal by WHO in 1992, within the context of the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa, donations were received from Sweden and Canada which were used to implement malaria and tuberculosis control activities and assist in the emergency health response. WHO has provided drugs, insecticide, equipment with operational support, technical supervision and training.

100. In April 1993, WHO collaborated in a joint WHO/UNICEF mission to assess reported epidemics of leishmaniasis in the country. In February 1993, the WHO office in the Sudan warned of an imminent outbreak of meningitis; emergency

measures to control these outbreaks are envisaged in consultation with the Government and donors.

World Bank

101. In July 1991, the Bank approved US$ 16.0 million of International Development Association credit to the Sudan for emergency drought rehabilitation. The project assisted in improving water supply and sanitation, in increasing the availability of essential medical drugs and in regenerating productive capacity in agriculture in areas of Darfur, Kordofan, Khartoum and Eastern State, and in the towns of Juba, Jalakal and Wau in the south. The majority of project activities have now been completed, with most of the medical drugs, seeds and agricultural inputs procured and distributed. The borehole and handpump programme is in place and operation and maintenance is working well.

International Monetary Fund

102. The main role of the International Monetary Fund is the provision of macroeconomic advice and assistance to its members: emergency humanitarian aid per se is not part of its ambit. As such, the Fund has not been directly involved in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/162 pertaining to emergency assistance to the Sudan.

103. Since further IMF lending to the Sudan has been precluded for more than seven years by the country's large and growing arrears to the Fund, the staff's activities have been largely limited to encouraging the adoption of a comprehensive package of adjustment reforms to address the serious external and internal imbalances that plague the economy. The authorities' attempts to formulate and implement such a package have, however, been undermined by the Sudan's poor and deteriorating relations with other international financial institutions and bilateral donors. The World Bank, which has made no new commitments to the Sudan since 1991, has recently ceased to disburse on existing commitments following the emergence of arrears, and the Arab Monetary Fund has suspended the Sudan's membership for the same reason. Arrears have also recently been incurred with the African Development Bank. Aid from other sources has slowed to a trickle.

104. If the Sudan's efforts to end the hostilities in the south and to improve relations with donors are successful, the Fund would expect to be involved with endeavours to address the country's intractable debt load and to help the authorities set the economy on a course of sustainable low-inflation growth.

World Meteorological Organization

105. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in close cooperation with the Sudan Meteorological Department (SMD), is implementing a comprehensive project entitled "Rehabilitation and improvement of the SMD", with financing provided by the Government of Finland under trust fund arrangements between the Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA) and WMO. The project was started in

late 1988 and is expected to be completed by the end of 1993. Total FINNIDA contribution is in the amount of US$ 2.4 million.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

106. Under the Fund's mandate, IFAD provides financing to raise food production and reduce rural poverty and malnutrition. The provision of emergency assistance thus falls beyond the Fund's mandate. However, in terms of its mandate, IFAD has at the present time, seven projects in the Sudan, amounting to US$ 162.87 million, with IFAD contributing US$ 67.33 million and the co-financiers and the Government US$ 95.54 million.

V. OBSERVATIONS

107. The humanitarian situation in the Sudan is a matter of increasingly urgent concern to the international community. The long-standing conflict between the Government and SPLM, compounded by interfactional fighting within the rebel movement, has taken a terrible toll on the civilian population of the country, particularly in the south. Despite many efforts at mediation and negotiation, the underlying political tensions and factional conflicts remain unresolved.

108. During the period covered by the present report, humanitarian assistance needs remained pressing as armed clashes continued to wreak death, injury and dislocation on the people of the Sudan. As discussed in paragraphs 15 to 25 above, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs has taken a series of initiatives since late 1992 to gain wider access and open new routes for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. These efforts yielded a number of agreements, which in some cases were translated into concrete results. Nevertheless, the high expectations raised by the various accords, particularly the agreement of January 1993 between the United Nations, the Government of the Sudan and international non-governmental organizations, have not been fulfilled. It is also discouraging to note that intense interfactional fighting and the renewed Government offensive have given rise in recent months to massive new flows of refugees and displaced persons, while further impeding the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

109. The appointment of a Special Envoy for Humanitarian Affairs for the Sudan in May 1993 (see paras. 22-25 above) was motivated by the desire to focus greater international attention on the humanitarian crisis in the Sudan and to better serve the affected populations, some of whose very survival depends on emergency food and relief assistance. While the visit by the Special Envoy to the Sudan was inordinately delayed, it achieved a discernible - albeit modest - step forward for the humanitarian agenda. Efforts will continue in the coming months to build on the momentum generated by the mission, both with the Government of the Sudan and the various parties involved and with the donor community, whose support is critical for the success of the humanitarian programme in the Sudan.

110. The mobilization of resources for humanitarian assistance remains a serious preoccupation for the United Nations and its partners in relief, particularly in the non-food and logistics sectors. Insufficient financial support, in addition to problems of access and security, has contributed to the weakening of the United Nations humanitarian effort in the Sudan. A technical meeting is planned for late September with the donor community and international relief agencies to review the current situation in the light of the mission by the Special Envoy and to examine ways of reinvigorating the humanitarian programme in the Sudan. It is hoped that donors will re-evaluate their commitments and consider new contributions in view of the massive needs for humanitarian assistance in the Sudan and the determination of the relief community to mount an effective assistance programme in spite of formidable logistical barriers and security concerns.